


The revision of the claims does not add new matter and does not add matter to the claims which would necessitate a new search and/or consideration by the Examiner. Moreover, the Examiner indicated that Claims 11 and 12 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. The revised claims which are herewith presented by applicants are, therefore, deemed to place the application in condition for allowance²⁾. Favorable action is solicited.

Early action by the Examiner would be greatly appreciated by applicants.

Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including Extension of Time fees, to Deposit Account No. 14.1437. Please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,
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Encl.: CLAIM AMENDMENTS (Appendix I)

JDV/BAS

2) If an independent claim is non-obvious under 35 U.S.C. §103, then any claim depending therefrom is non-obvious (In re Fine, 837 F.2d 1071, 5 USPQ2d 1596 (CAFC 1988)).